



(Photo Credit: Marvel Comics)

## Official Rules of the “I Have the Power” Comic Competition

### I. Contest Theme:

Defined as “a group of cartoons in narrative sequence”, comic strips have played an important role in forming or influencing public opinion on a variety of themes. As former Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Annan said, “They can encourage us to look critically at ourselves, and increase our empathy for the frustrations of others.”

From Wonder Woman, to Storm, to Kamala Khan aka Ms. Marvel, strong women comic superheroes have been introduced over the years to the public as capable not only of protecting themselves, but frequently, those around them and even the world! In real life, women positively influence their families, neighborhoods, communities, country, and the world in both small and large ways. They often demonstrate incomprehensible strength in overcoming a wide variety of challenges to do so.

In commemoration of **Women’s History Month** and **International Women’s Day on March 8**, U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad is partnering with *Siasat Urdu News* and *Sakshi Telugu Daily* to conduct the #IHaveThePower” search for central India’s next female comic superhero.

Each newspaper will select one winner and one runner-up. The first prize winner will receive the opportunity to be interviewed by, and publish a full comic strip featuring their original superhero in, *Siasat Urdu Daily* (if in Urdu), or *Sakshi Telugu Daily* (if in Telugu). S/he will also receive an iPad Mini from U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad. The second prize winner from each newspaper will receive the opportunity to publish their comic strip in that newspaper, and will also receive a set of art supplies from U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad.

### II. How to Enter:

Contestants are invited to name and submit a drawing of an original, fictional cartoon/comic character, with an accompanying original backstory, on the theme of, “I Have the Power: Women as Everyday Superheroes”. The concept behind this original, fictional cartoon/comic character should honor and represent the capacity women have to protect and improve themselves and their broader communities, using a fictional unique skill that others do not have. This contest is open to Indian nationals residing in U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad’s consular district: Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Telangana. Contestants must be between the ages of 14-21, and enrolled in a college or university located in Andhra, Pradesh, Odisha, or Telangana. Once a drawing is submitted, it is considered a final submission and may not be modified or edited, or replaced. Contestants may submit no more than one comic drawing.

Participation in this contest is automatically deemed as acceptance of these Official Contest Rules. Drawings considered to be copies of existing work will be disqualified must be an original comic drawn by the submitter.

a. Submission:

- (i) Email: Drawings of superheroes must be accompanied by a “backstory” that explains the inspiration behind this particular character, gives context for who the character is, what her unique power is, how she derived that power, and how she uses it for society’s benefit. The backstory may be no longer than one page, 14 point, Times New Roman font. Contestants are required to include their (i) Name, (ii) Address, (iii) Age, and (iv) College or University of enrollment at the time of submission.
- (ii) An email containing a scanned version of the superhero graphic and Word document backstory can be submitted via email to [hyderabadpa@gmail.com](mailto:hyderabadpa@gmail.com).
- (iii) Comics, with their accompanying backstory, may also be hand-delivered to the offices of *Siasat Urdu Daily* or *Sakshi Telugu Daily*.

### III. Content Requirements

Entries CANNOT:

- be sexually explicit or suggestive, or derogatory of any ethnic, racial, gender, religious, professional or age group or the disabled, be profane or pornographic, or contain nudity;
- promote alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, firearms/weapons (or the use of any of the foregoing), any activities that are or may appear illegal or dangerous, or any particular political agenda or message;
- defame, misrepresent or contain disparaging remarks about other people or companies;
- contain any prominent use of trademarks, logos or trade dress (such as distinctive packaging or building exteriors/interiors) owned by others as determined by U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad, or advertise or promote any brand or product of any kind, or contain any personal identification, such as license plate numbers, personal names, e-mail addresses or street addresses;
- contain prominent copyrighted materials owned by others (including , comics, sculptures, paintings and other works of art or images published on or in websites, television, movies or other media) as determined by U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad;

- contain materials embodying the names, likenesses, , comics, or other indicia identifying any person, living or dead, without permission;
- communicate messages or images inconsistent with the positive images and/or goodwill to which U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad wishes to associate;
- depict and cannot itself be in violation of any law or otherwise; nor
- depict or otherwise identify a minor unless a parent or legal guardian is the entrant.

#### IV. Eligibility:

1. Contestants must be at least 14 years old and no older than 21 years old at the time of submission.
2. The contest commences at 12:01 am on March 5, 2015, and closes at 23:59 on March 25, 2015. The person submitting the commence will be considered the contestant and will be the only person eligible to compete for the prize.
3. Employees of the U.S. Government and their families, and employees and family members of the cosponsors, will not be eligible to participate in this competition.
4. Submission by email should be in .jpg, .gif, or .png format and no larger than a five (5) megabytes (mb) file size.
5. Submissions should not have any visible watermarks, signatures, or personally identifiable information.
6. Contestants must be residents of, and physically present in, one of the states of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Telangana at the time of submission.

#### V. Selection of Winners:

##### Judging Criteria

All comics will be screened by a panel of officials from the Consulate General of the United States of America, Hyderabad. The criteria for judging are: 1. Originality 2. Creativity 3. Effectiveness 4. Quality

If a potential winner does not respond and comply with the instructions in the direct message within ten (10) days after we send the direct message, he/she will forfeit the prize and we may award the prize to an alternate entrant.

#### VII. Terms & Rights:

By entering you represent and warrant and agree that:

- You have photographed and submitted the Entry.
- That all elements of your comic Entry submitted by you are original and are not copied from any other work, and do not infringe upon the rights of any third party and to the

extent any elements were created by a third party (“Third Party Participant”), you own all right, title and interest to said elements which is part of your Entry, to enable you to grant the rights granted herein.

- That if you are a minor, you have your parent or legal guardian’s permission to compete.
- You retain ownership of the Entry(ies) you submit, however, by entering, you grant U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad the perpetual, fully-paid, irrevocable, non-exclusive license to publish, reproduce, prepare derivative works of, distribute, display, exhibit, transmit, broadcast, televise, digitize, otherwise use, and permit others to use and perform throughout the world the comic and Entry in any manner, form, or format now or hereinafter created, including on the Internet, and for any purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising or promotion of Contest Entities and Contest all without further consent from or payment to you, including those Entry(ies) which were not selected.
- By submitting your Entry(ies), you agree that U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad has no obligation to post or publish your Entry, that all such postings or publication, if any, will be in U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad’s sole discretion and that the posting or publication of an Entry does not guarantee the Entry will be selected as a winner.
- By submitting an Entry, each entrant understands and grants to the U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad permission for his/her Entry to be posted on the Consulate’s Flickr, Facebook, Twitter, and web pages in perpetuity throughout the world for viewing on online platforms.
- U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad is not responsible for any unauthorized third party use of any Entry.
- Entries will not be acknowledged and will not be received or held “in confidence” and a submission does not create a confidential relationship or obligation of secrecy between you and U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad or any of its affiliates.
- Each Entry must not infringe upon the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity, or other intellectual property or other rights of any person or entity.
- If the Entry contains any material or elements that are not owned by the entrant and/or which are subject to the rights of third parties, the entrant is responsible for obtaining, prior to submission of the Entry, any and all releases and consents necessary to permit the use and exhibition of the Entry by U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad in the manner set forth in these Official Rules.
- U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad reserves the right to request proof of these permissions in a form acceptable to them from any entrant at any time.
- By submitting an Entry, entrant warrants and represents that he/she consents to the submission and use of the Entry in the Contest, and to its posting on the U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad or other USG web pages. U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad reserves the right to disqualify any Entry for any reason, in its sole and absolute discretion. U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad is under no obligation to disclose why an Entry has been disqualified other than the Entry was ineligible under these Official Rules. Furthermore, U.S. Consulate General Hyderabad reserves the right to not award any prize if, in its sole and absolute discretion, it does not receive a sufficient number of eligible and qualified entries in the entry period.